

East Demetrio
Quemado Ranger District
2016 Annual Operating Instructions
(01/08/2016)

As per your Annual meeting held with Emily Irwin and Wayne Witty, please see the following instructions. Please utilize these instructions as direction for management on your grazing allotment during the 2016 Grazing Season. We appreciate your cooperation in the management of your livestock throughout the grazing year.

2016 Pasture Rotation:

Candelario Permit

| Pasture | From | To | Number | Allowable Use |
|---------|----------|----------|---------------------|---------------|
| Largo | 03/01/16 | 06/30/16 | 17 cattle, 5 horses | 40% |
| Harris | 07/01/16 | 12/31/16 | 17 cattle,5 horses | 40% |
| Chavez | 01/01/17 | 02/28/17 | 17 cattle,5 horses | 40% |

Rock House Ranch, L.L.C. Permit

| Pasture | From | To | Number | Allowable Use |
|---------|----------|----------|-----------|---------------|
| Largo | 03/01/16 | 06/30/16 | 40 cattle | 40% |
| Harris | 07/01/16 | 12/31/16 | 40 cattle | 40% |
| Chavez | 01/01/17 | 02/28/17 | 40 cattle | 40% |

Grazing Restrictions:

No current restrictions apply to this allotment.

Allowable Use:

Proper utilization of forage plants is a necessity to maintain long term productivity of the rangeland and to protect soils from erosion. Proper utilization will maintain sufficient ground cover to prevent erosion and meet the physiological needs of key forage plants for maintenance and reproduction over the long term. Allowable use is determined from considering proper use and all influencing factors such as grazing system, range condition, watershed condition, timing and duration of livestock use and scheduled amount of rest between use periods.

The Decision Notice dated December 13, 1999 set guidelines for forage utilization in key areas at 35% allowable use during growing season and 40% allowable use during dormant season. Within riparian areas that contain woody riparian plants, utilization is limited to no more than 25% of the riparian sprouts/seedlings within riparian areas.

Utilization Monitoring:

Utilization monitoring will be conducted on or near key areas of your allotment. District personnel will monitor pasture use and determine utilization percentage at that time. Monitoring dates will be set according to the previous year's monitoring results. If pastures were approaching allowable use during the 2015 grazing season they will be monitored at the mid-point of the pasture use period to determine if it is necessary for livestock to be moved to the next pasture in the rotation. Please note the following approximate dates that are scheduled for monitoring on the East Demetrio Allotment. You are encouraged to participate in monitoring utilization levels.

2016 Monitoring Dates:

| Pasture | Monitoring Dates |
|---------|--------------------|
| Chavez | 02/23/17 |
| Harris | 10/28/16, 12/21/16 |
| Largo | 05/17/16, 07/05/16 |

If any one key area in a pasture being grazed by livestock exceeds utilization on the uplands or woody riparian plant sprouts/seedlings, livestock will be moved to another area of the pasture where actual use is less than allowable use. If all remaining key areas in the grazed pasture are at allowable use, livestock will be required to be moved early to the next scheduled pasture. This requirement is necessary to prevent overuse on forage plants.

Forage Growth and Water Availability:

If forage growth and/or water availability are not adequate during all or portions of the 2016 grazing season, total or partial livestock removal from the allotment will be necessary. Part 2, clause 8(c) of the grazing permit provides this option.

Range Developments:

All assigned range developments identified in the Term Grazing Permit will be maintained to a functional status.

Follow up Items from AOI Meeting:

Swenson Corral – Items will be issued to reconstruct Swenson Corral. Please contact Wayne Witty when you are prepared to pick up the materials.

Production Study – We will be looking into the requirements and timeframes involved with a production study. We will let you know when we will be able to perform the study.

Willow Spring Pipeline – We will research possible Categorical Exclusions that may allow us to distribute water across the allotment. A field day will be necessary to check existing conditions and the proposed routes. Wayne will contact you to arrange a meeting in the field.

Tire Drinkers – Materials will either be issued by the Forest Service or provided by the permittee. Please contact Wayne prior to the replacement of the existing drinkers so we can update our improvement records.

Section 12 Pipeline Extension – We will research possible Categorical Exclusions that may allow us to distribute water across the allotment. A field day will be necessary. We will try to combine this field day with the Willow Spring Pipeline trip.

If you have any questions or comments concerning these Annual Operating Instructions, please do not hesitate to contact Wayne Witty at (575) 773-4678.

/S/Emily Irwin
Emily Irwin
District Ranger

02/23/16
Date